

Planning for the Future

What Will Happen When Your Child Becomes an Adult?



1. Planning for your child's future is important- it takes a lot of work and needs to start early on.
2. Here are a few things you should think about:
 - Estate Planning- this involves looking ahead and deciding on who will care for your child, where your child will live, and the financial needs your child will have (includes writing **wills** and setting up **trusts**)
 - Guardianship- this means that one person will have the legal power to care for another person (mostly used when a person is unable to make his/her own decisions)
3. There are many complicated issues to consider when thinking about these things- it is important that you talk with someone who is very familiar with this area:
 - Talk with your child's school counselor to find out about any local resources that could help you and your family
 - Call your district court office and ask for the guardianship division
 - Do your own research so you have a clear understanding of what is happening
4. Remember- it's never too early to start planning- **your child's future depends on it!!**



Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services
Children's Rehabilitation Service